



Pigeon Race Compliance Agreement No.

This agreement pertains to birds and/or races outside of the Federal quarantine zone and races that do not fly in airspace above the Federal quarantine zone.

PARTIES

1. California Department of Food and Agriculture (hereinafter "the Department")
Contact: E.N.D. Task Force, Permits & Movement
Central California I.C.P.
948 11th Street, Suite 30
Modesto, CA 95354
Telephone: 209-558-5637
Facsimile: 209-558-8980
2. Name of Promoter/Manager/Agent/Organizer:

Hereinafter "Promoter"

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Facsimile: _____

Email: _____

BACKGROUND

1. On October 1, 2002, an outbreak of Exotic Newcastle Disease (hereinafter "END") was confirmed in Southern California. END is a highly contagious and often fatal viral disease that affects most species of birds. END is especially virulent, with many birds dying without showing any clinical signs of the disease.
2. The last major outbreak of END within the commercial poultry industry occurred in Southern California in 1971. It threatened the entire American poultry and egg supply. Over thirteen hundred (1,300) flocks were infected and nearly twelve million (12,000,000) birds were destroyed. Eradication efforts cost fifty-six million dollars (\$56,000,000). The operations of poultry producers were severely disrupted, and prices of poultry and poultry products for consumers increased. Eradicating END can only be accomplished through rapidly identifying and destroying all affected and exposed flocks of poultry. After depopulation, extensive cleanup and disinfection of the premises must be performed to prevent reinfection.
3. Food and Agricultural Code section 9562 provides the Department with the authority to order the movement, segregation, isolation, or destruction of animals or food products during a quarantine. On March 17, 2003, the Department imposed a statewide quarantine prohibiting the exhibition of poultry. Poultry species included are chickens, turkeys, ducks, geese, partridges, pheasants, quail, guinea fowl, peafowl, doves, pigeons, grouse, swans and ratites.
4. Food and Agricultural Code section 9574 provides that any person who negligently or intentionally violates a quarantine shall be civilly liable in an amount not to exceed twenty-five thousand (\$25,000) dollars. Food and Agricultural Code section 9701 provides that a first quarantine violation may be cited as an infraction, with second and subsequent violations constituting of misdemeanor offenses.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS (PIGEON RACING AND RACE TRAINING):

By agreeing to the following conditions, Promoter acknowledges that he/she has been personally served with the Notice. Promoter further acknowledges that he/she may not engage in exhibition of any pigeons without executing and complying with the terms and conditions of this compliance agreement with the Department. The Department acknowledges that Promoter may engage in the racing of pigeons upon execution of the agreement and subsequent compliance. Furthermore, the promoter agrees to collect from each participating pigeon owner or agent written acceptance of the terms set forth below.

1. I certify that I understand and will comply with the following conditions for operating and monitoring a Pigeon Race or Pigeon Racing Series. A "Racing Series" is defined as a sequence of races organized by the same person or club in either the "Old Bird Season" (spring) or the "Young Bird Season" (autumn). The same conditions apply to "Training Races."
 - a. The "Start" ("Liberation") and "Finish" ("Lofts" or "Arrival Points") of the race or training race shall be outside any quarantine zones and shall not traverse quarantine zones. A "Quarantine Zone" is, for the purpose of this agreement, any county or geographical area that is quarantined because of current or recent Newcastle Disease infections.
 - b. Pigeons will be raced or trained at the risk of the owner.
 - c. Race (or Training Race) participant's entry form must indicate his/her agreement to race only:
 - (i) Healthy pigeons from lofts with no Newcastle Disease or any other undiagnosed diseases in any avian species, and
 - (ii) Pigeons that have been legally imported or have been raised in the United States and have been in the possession of the owner or agent for the past 30 days.
 - d. Race participant's entry form must indicate: his/her permission, on behalf of pigeons' agent or owner, to have entered pigeons monitored for health status; receipt of a copy of the compliance conditions; and they understand the actions that will be taken should END be suspected or confirmed.
 - e. Official state or federal animal health personnel may be present to monitor health status of pigeons.
 - f. Information handouts on END will be distributed to all participants. Samples are available from the END Task Force.
 - g. Promoter will call the END Task Force (209-558-5637) in the event of unusual mortality, sickness, or illegal pigeons, answer any questions and provide pigeons for sampling if requested by the END Task Force.
 - h. Upon request, provide the END Task Force representative with a master list of all race participants, including names and addresses, and individual identification of pigeons entered in the race. Individual identification can be band numbers, microchip number, or other ID approved by the END Task Force. These records shall be maintained for six months.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS (PIGEON RACING AND RACE TRAINING) CON'T.:

- i. If the Department suspects that END is present, the event will be placed under an immediate quarantine with pigeons held in accordance with prescribed biosecure measures. In the event of quarantine, race staff with the assistance of pigeon owners will be responsible for segregating the pigeons and caring for them under quarantine guidelines until the quarantine is lifted.
 - j. All dead pigeons and samples will be submitted by the END Task Force for END testing at no charge to the Promoter or participants.

- k. If END is diagnosed, the Department will serve an individual quarantine notice for the destruction of infected and exposed pigeons and pigeon products, in a manner consistent with quarantine statutes and regulations. The Department shall compensate the owners for the destruction of pigeons based upon the appraised, fair market value of the infected and exposed pigeons. It is possible that the Department will determine that discovery of END at the event will necessitate the destruction of all pigeons and pigeon products present on the basis that they have been exposed to END. In addition, the Department will clean and disinfect cages, materials and equipment associated with the display of the pigeons, with the possibility that some, and possibly all, materials and equipment will have to be destroyed to avoid the possibility of reinfection.
 - l. If END is not diagnosed, the quarantine will be lifted. Costs associated with caring for the pigeons and shipping them to other destinations is not the responsibility of the Department.
 - m. A Department Movement Permit must accompany all birds leaving the quarantine area.
2. Promoter acknowledges that all decisions related to the need to quarantine birds and bird products for holding, segregation and destruction, as well as to clean, disinfect, and, if necessary, destroy any associated cages, materials and equipment, lies within the sole discretion of the Department.

Dates of Race, Race Series, or Training Races:_____ to _____

I understand and agree to comply with the above conditions:

Signature of Promoter

Date

Signature of Designated END Veterinarian

Date

Printed name of Designated Veterinarian